

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled).

2. (Currently Amended) A multichannel acoustic signal reproducing apparatus comprising:

a portable housing having a hand grip for portable purposes ~~and being of a size to be carried by one hand of a user by using the hand grip;~~

a center speaker arranged in the portable housing;
left and right speakers separably attached to the portable housing;

recording and reproducing means arranged in the portable housing capable of recording and reproducing a recording medium;

surround decoding means arranged in the portable housing for decoding a multichannel acoustic signal from the recording and reproducing means to produce surround phonic sound;

~~first~~ second switching means arranged in the portable housing for reproducing a first predetermined number of channels of the multichannel acoustic signal from the surround decoding means through the center speaker and the left and right speakers, and ~~second~~ first switching means for switching and outputting remaining channels of the multichannel acoustic signal from the surround decoding means; and

control means for controlling the recording and reproducing means and, ~~the surround decoding means and the first and second switching means,~~

wherein in which channel signals of the remaining channels from the ~~second~~ first switching means are supplied to a television receiver having speakers and capable of reproducing the channel signals as surround phonic sound in conjunction with the left, right, and center speakers, in which the television receiver is arranged in a housing separate from the portable housing.

3. (Currently amended) ~~The~~ A multichannel acoustic signal reproducing apparatus ~~according to claim 2, wherein comprising:~~

a portable housing having a hand grip for portable purposes;

a center speaker arranged in the portable housing;

left and right speakers separably attached to the portable housing;

recording and reproducing means arranged in the portable housing capable of recording and reproducing a recording medium;

surround decoding means arranged in the portable housing for decoding a multichannel acoustic signal from the recording and reproducing means to produce surround phonic sound;

second switching means arranged in the portable housing for reproducing a first predetermined number of channels of the multichannel acoustic signal from the surround decoding means through the center speaker and the left and right speakers, and first switching means for switching and outputting remaining channels of the multichannel acoustic signal from the surround decoding means; and

control means for controlling the recording and reproducing means and the surround decoding means,

in which channel signals of the remaining channels from the first switching means are supplied to a television receiver having speakers and capable of reproducing the channel signals as surround phonic sound in conjunction with the left, right, and center speakers, in which

the channel signals from the first ~~second~~ switching means are fed to the television receiver by a single cable; and

the left, right, and center speakers are used as rear speakers and are located behind the user.

4. (new) The multichannel acoustic signal reproducing apparatus of claim 2 in which the channel signals from the first switching means are fed to the television receiver over a wireless channel.

5. (new) The multichannel acoustic signal reproducing apparatus of claim 2 in which the channel signals from the first switching means are fed to the television receiver over an Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) 1394 interface.

6. (new) The multichannel acoustic signal reproducing apparatus of claim 2 in which the channel signals from the first switching means are fed to the television receiver over a universal serial bus (USB) interface.

7. (new) The multichannel acoustic signal reproducing apparatus of claim 2 further comprising a Moving Picture Experts Group (MPEG) decoding means arranged in the portable housing capable of decoding a video signal from the recording and reproducing means to produce decoded video output.

8. (new) The multichannel acoustic signal reproducing apparatus of claim 7 in which the decoded video output is fed to the television receiver over a single cable.

9. (new) The multichannel acoustic signal reproducing apparatus of claim 7 in which the decoded video output and the channel signals from the first switching means are fed to the television receiver over a single cable.

10. (new) The multichannel acoustic signal reproducing apparatus of claim 3 in which the channel signals from the first switching means are fed to the television receiver over a

wireless channel.

11. (new) The multichannel acoustic signal reproducing apparatus of claim 3 in which the channel signals from the first switching means are fed to the television receiver over an Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) 1394 interface.

12. (new) The multichannel acoustic signal reproducing apparatus of claim 3 in which the channel signals from the first switching means are fed to the television receiver over a universal serial bus (USB) interface.

13. (new) The multichannel acoustic signal reproducing apparatus of claim 3 further comprising a Moving Picture Experts Group (MPEG) decoding means arranged in the portable housing capable of decoding a video signal from the recording and reproducing means to produce decoded video output.

14. (new) The multichannel acoustic signal reproducing apparatus of claim 3 in which the decoded video output is fed to the television receiver over a single cable.

15. (new) The multichannel acoustic signal reproducing apparatus of claim 14 in which the decoded video output is fed to the television receiver over a single cable.

16. (new) The multichannel acoustic signal reproducing apparatus of claim 14 in which the decoded video output and the channel signals from the first switching means are fed to the television receiver over a single cable.